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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7858
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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - NATO CONFERENCE, BAKER-HAMILTON
REPORT

Block Quotes

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

-- In "The Baker-Hamilton Slap" Columnist Amna Al-Mosawi penned in moderate Arabic daily Al-Rai (12/12):

"Had the American administration not been facing a genuine impasse, as a result of its creatively chaotic policies, it would not have resorted to finding a political way out of this impasse.... The 'slap' is not the report but rather the fact that all these points and strategic solutions are no different from the warnings that were presented by several countries led by the 'axis of evil' states."

-- Liberal Dr. Ayed Al-Mana' commented in conservative Arabic daily Al-Watan under the title "NATO and the Expansion of the Security Umbrella" (12/12):

"We think that the Gulf States that sometimes suffer mutinies and terrorist attacks need to boost their cooperation with an international organization with enormous political, economic, and security capabilities such as NATO."

-- Liberal Kuwait University Political Science Professor, Dr. Shamlan Yousef Al-Issa noted under the title "Gulf Security and NATO" in pro-government daily Al-Seyassah (12/12):

"Alliance between NATO and Gulf States should not be seen as directed against any state or political organization. It is a security system aiming at realizing security and stability in the region."

-- Shi'ite columnist Dr. Abdulla Yousef Sahar contended in moderate Arabic daily Al-Anbaa under the title "Partnership with NATO" (12/12):

"We welcome our NATO guests who came to conduct dialogue and we hope that this will be a prelude for the good of all in achieving what is cherished by mankind -- spreading justice, peace, and cooperation for the sake of humanity."

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